

OXC-0264-60
Copy 5 of 5

29 January 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Technical Services Staff

SUBJECT : Clearances for Four TSS Officers

REFERENCE : Memo for DD/P from C/TSS dtd 7 January 1960,
Subj: Request for ARGON, CORONA & OXCART
Clearances (OXC-0220-60/1)

1. I am returning to you herewith the referenced memorandum with what I must admit is my reluctant concurrence. Reflecting on our long conversation on this matter on 26 January, I was convinced that there is one valid general argument in favor of granting the clearances you have requested. This is that knowledge of the experience being obtained currently on certain sensitive projects will better equip your officers for creative work on possible new projects and systems in the future. I remain wholly unconvinced, however, that they need this knowledge in order to stimulate their interest in working on future systems. If this argument were admitted, the whole principle of compartmentation would break down. Nor was I convinced that the officers in question can make any significant contribution to the three projects involved, except in the case of [REDACTED] work which would lead him into contact with one of the three projects. 25X1A

2. The decisive consideration that induced me to concur in the granting of these clearances was my respect for your judgment and that of your Deputy and my belief that the very strong feeling you both have on this matter should be given considerable weight. I know that you are trying to make TSS into a scientific research and development organization of real distinction, and I want to help you in every way that I can. Since you obviously feel that broad knowledge of projects like those here involved is important to the achievement of this objective, I fear I would be most ill advised in the last analysis to weigh my instincts more heavily than your considered views. I hope that payoff in the form of maintained and heightened excellence will be achieved.

(sgd) Richard M. Bissell, Jr.

RICHARD M. BISSELL, JR.
Deputy Director

DD/P:RMB:ggg (1/28/60)

SECRET

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